Amendments to the Specification:

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 14, line 4 with the following amended paragraph:

When the directional control valve is switched to cause the spool 2 to slide, for example, in a rightward direction of FIG. 2 in the second embodiment, the communication passage 7 and the actuator port 3 are cut off from each other. When pressure fluid is fed from an unillustrated pump to the parallel passage 6 in this state, the first check valve 15 is caused to slide in an upward direction of FIG. 1 against the force of the spring 17, in other words, the first check valve 15 is caused to slide relative to the second check valve 16 and the plug 11. The pressure fluid then flows out from a clearance, which is ~~has been~~ formed [[at]] between the seat portion 19 of the valve main body 1 and said first check valve 15, into the communication passage 7, and further, is fed to the actuator port 4. During this time, the second check valve 16 remains pressed against the seat portion 20 of the valve main body 1 by the pressure fluid fed into the communication passage 7. Accordingly, the tandem passage 5 remains closed.